

From: Jeff Chirico
To: Microsoft ATR
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Subject: Microsoft Settlement

I am amazed that the DOJ continues this special interest and corporate biased trend of regulating competition in the courtroom. At various times in history different companies have excelled in specific business areas, but as is usual in a market driven economy the balancing of business is achieved through vigorous competition in industry, not through litigation. IBM looked unstoppable when I was growing up, and went through the same defining moments as Microsoft. Years later after IBM's strength was weakened the DOJ then dropped the anti-trust case. What did this endeavor actually resolve, but the weakening of an American enterprise.

Thankfully Microsoft products are American and represent a market segment that the United States still has a significant lead and growth in. Yet, only in America do we thwart such innovative products from growth using the courtroom to pad folks' resumes in the DOJ.

I hope the Republicans in office will recognize a more laissez-faire approach to the economy, and will now halt this trend by pushing this case out the door with a limited remedy. The current remedy proposed that benefits education seems more than reasonable and honorable to me. The states that do not agree at this point have their own special interests, and are purchased lobbyists for AOL, Sun, and Oracle.

Sincerely,

Jeff Chirico

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